

Application No: 09/842,790 Docket No.: Q112-US1
Rule 312 Amendment dated April 14, 2003

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REMARKS

In the specification, the paragraphs beginning at page 4, line 28 through page 5, line 13, have been amended to correct minor typographical errors and the inadvertent repetition of reference numeral 82. Reference numeral 82 to refer to the inner surface of dielectric ring 70 has been changed to reference numeral 81. Reference numeral 82 designates the shoulder of metal ring 78.

Page 5, last paragraph, second sentence has been amended to remove the word "then". As one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize, if end cap 100 defines a central opening 106, the end cap preferably would be sealed against annular shoulder 104 on metal ring 78 before inserting the electrolyte into the battery. After inserting the electrolyte, central opening 106 would then be sealed by minor end cap 108 (which is also known as a "fill plug" in the art). Of course, the end cap 100 could be sealed against annular shoulder 104 on metal ring 78 after inserting the electrolyte into the battery, particularly if an end cap were used that did not define such an opening 106.

In amended FIG. 4, the reference numeral 82 on the left side has been changed to 81 to refer to the inner surface of dielectric ring 70 because reference numeral 82 is used to designate the shoulder of metal ring 78. Also, previously omitted reference numeral 106 has been added to indicate the central opening of large end cap 100 (see page 6, line 3), along with a clearer indication of the hole 106 (which had been shown more clearly in the originally filed drawings). In amended FIG. 6, previously omitted reference numeral 98 has been added to indicate the annular shoulder of end cap 96 (see page 5, lines 27-28).

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Conclusion

This request for amendment after mailing of the notice of allowance is being made on or before payment of the issue fee, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.312. It is earnestly requested that the amendment be entered into the application so that the application may issue without the identified errors being present in the specification.

Respectfully submitted,

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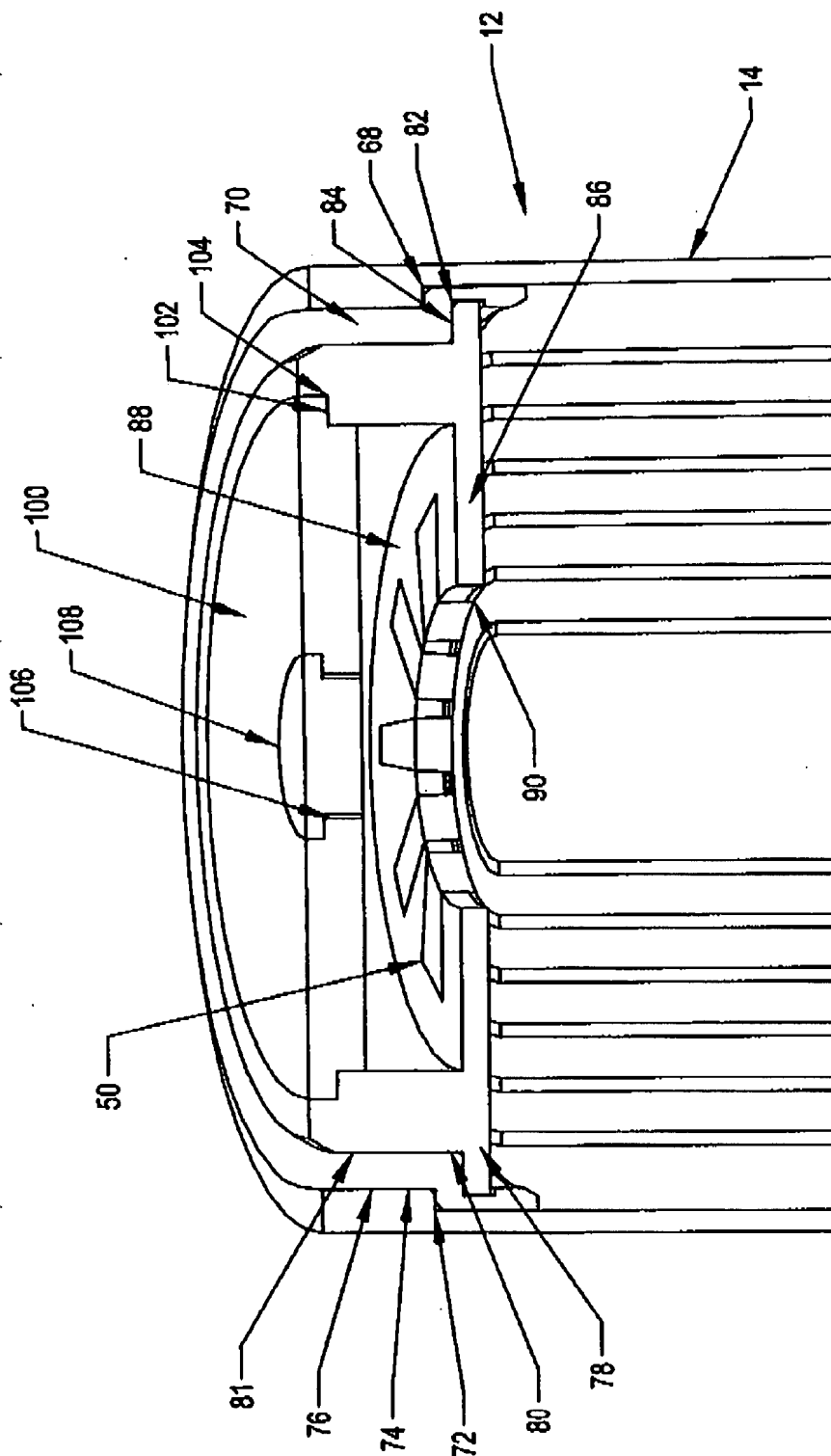


FIG. 4

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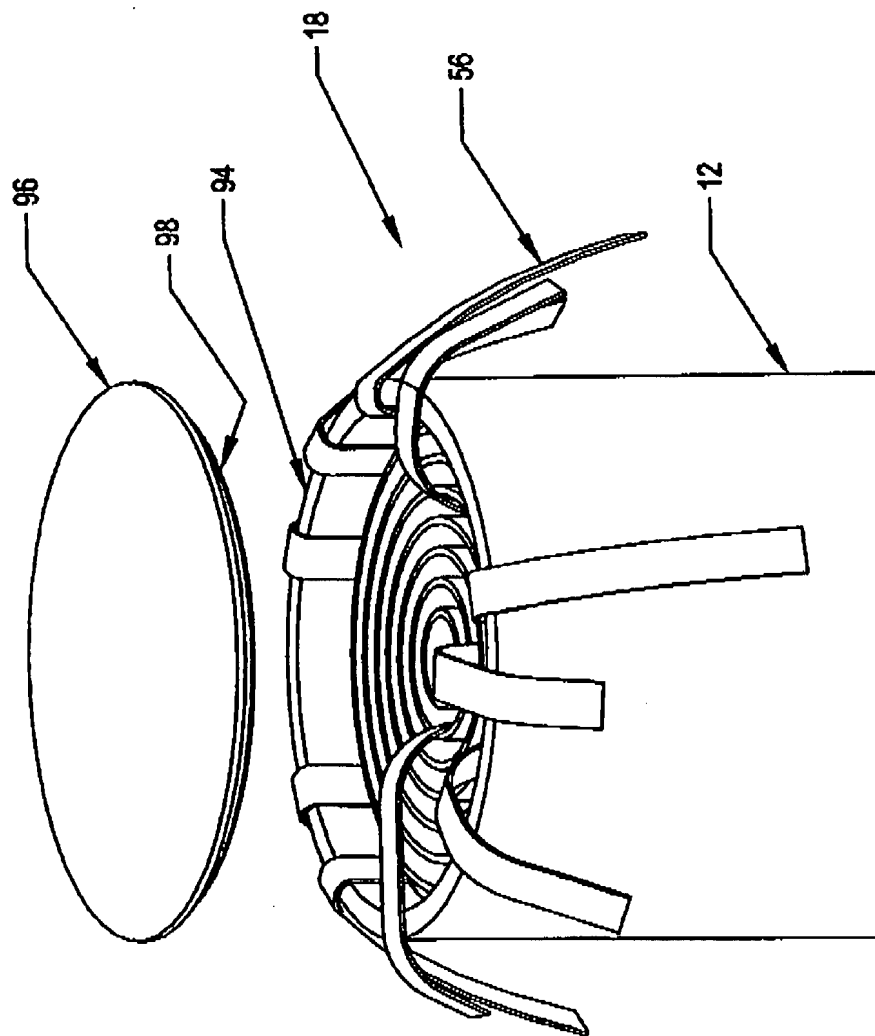


FIG. 6